

25X1

COUNTRY China/USSE

SUBJECT Soviet Trade Agencies in Harbin

DATE DISTR. 22 JUN 50

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE
ACQUIRED 25X1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.		25X1
---------------	--	------

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE ACT 36 U. S. C. 31 AND 32. AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

1. Torgpredstvo (Torgovoye Predstavitelstvo SSSR) (Commercial Representation of the USSR) in Harbin was established immediately after the Soviet Army's occupation of the city. The agency is located in the compound formerly occupied by the Russian Asiatic Bank, containing a two-story administration building, separate quarters for employees, and a garage. The building is not guarded and during business hours is open to anyone, no special pass being required. Of the approximately 120 employees of the office, all are Soviet citizens from the USSR; no local Soviets are employed. Former General-Major Boiko,*fnu, who has been the commercial representative for some time, still held the position in January 1950. All imports of Soviet goods, including books, periodicals, perfumes, wines, textiles, bicycles, and automobiles (GAZ, ZIS, etc.), are negotiated by the Chinese government through Torgpredstvo.
2. Eksportkhleb (Grain Export), also established after the Soviet occupation, has its office on Kitaiskaya Street. Its approximately fifty to seventy employees, all Soviet citizens from the USSR, are directed by Pakhamov, fnu, who arrived in Harbin in civilian clothes with the Soviet forces in 1945 and has remained ever since. The primary function of the organization is to procure and purchase for export to the USSR grain, dairy products, and other foodstuffs. All negotiations are conducted through representatives of the Department of Trade of the Northeast People's Government.
3. In addition to its main office, Eksportkhleb also operates a small local office, headed by Izersky, fnu, a local Soviet citizen. This branch employs entirely local Soviet citizens and engages in purchasing supplies on the Harbin market for the use of Soviet agencies in the area.
4. Dalvneshtrans (Dalnovostochny Vneshny Transport) (Far Eastern Foreign Transport), which was reactivated by the Soviets after their occupation of Harbin, operates passenger and freight transportation in the city supplementing that of the Municipal Transportation Bureau, which operates street car lines, and the Chinese Changchun Railway, which runs buses connecting its own installations. The passenger bus line operates nineteen buses in the city and immediate suburbs, and there is also a section which rents trucks to both public and private organizations. Certain public works are also performed for the

CONFIDENTIAL

[illegible]

25X1

This document is hereby regraded to
CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the
letter of 16 October 1978 from the
Director of Central Intelligence to the
Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. _____
No Change In Class.

☒ Declassified

Class. Changed To: TS S
Auth.: HR 702

Date: 070678

By

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

-2-

CONFIDENTIAL

municipal government, such as snow removal and waste collection.

5. The agency has its main headquarters, employing approximately thirty Soviet citizens from the USSR, in the Pristan District and its main motor park and maintenance garage in the Eighth District. There it employs approximately a thousand personnel, both local Soviets and Chinese, and there is a civilian guard detachment of local Soviets armed with Japanese carbines. Before 1948 the agency was directed by former Soviet Army Colonel Saratovski, fnu, who was succeeded, upon his departure for the USSR (date unstated), by Pakhomov of Eksportkhleb as a temporary measure. In late 1949 a new director arrived from the USSR, but his name was not known. All equipment operated by Dalveshtrans, including buses and trucks, was captured from the Japanese.
6. Soveksportfilm (Soviet Film Export Agency) has its offices in the Moskva (former Japanese Harbin-Kikan) Theatre, which, along with the Asia Theatre, was expropriated from its Japanese owners by the agency. The organization acts as an exchange for Soviet films and operates four cinemas, the two named above, and the Modern and the Orient, which it rents. Films are supplied not only to these four theatres but to all Chinese theatres in the city, as well as to schools, clubs, social organizations, and other groups, using portable projectors. Except for a few German films which the Soviets claim are made in the New People's Studio (DEFA) in Eastern Germany, nearly all films are Soviet, with Chinese sub-titles; German films have both Russian and Chinese sub-titles. When Chinese films are shown, they do not commonly have Russian sub-titles. The original director, Surovtsev, fnu, a Soviet citizen from the USSR, returned home in December 1948, to be succeeded by his former assistant Yutkin, fnu, a local Soviet. He was promptly dismissed after the arrival from the USSR of a new director, name unknown, in late 1949.
7. Churin (Tchurin, Tschurin) and Company, taken over by the Soviets upon their occupation because of Japanese capital in the firm, is headed by Stenin, fnu, a Soviet citizen from the USSR. His assistant is Samarin, fnu, an old resident of Harbin who retained his Soviet citizenship during the Japanese domination of Manchuria. The assistant manager of the Pristan District store is Aleksandr Gryastsov. In Harbin alone the firm, in stores, offices, and factories, employs over 2,500 local Soviets and Chinese.
8. Churin operates three stores in Harbin: in the Pristan District, in Ma Chia Kou (Modyagu) (馬家溝) District, and in Novy Gorod; it also controls the Harbin retail store of Mezhdunarodnaya Kniga, in the building of the former Matsura Department Store. The main administrative offices of the firm are in the Novy Gorod store. In addition, the firm operates a plywood factory, two industrial alcohol distilleries, a brewery, a vodka distillery, a confectionery, a sausage factory, and a large dairy in Harbin and has its own club and employees' quarters. Branch stores function in Mukden, Tsitsihar, Changchun, Mutanchiang, and Hailar. The stores in Harbin and in the provinces provide the largest single outlet for Soviet manufactured articles brought in by Torgpred.

* Comment. He was reported as V. P. Boyko

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL